

## CLAIMS

1. A recording medium destruction apparatus for destroying a recording medium so that information recorded on the recording medium is irreproducible, including image information recording means, the image information recording means recording at least one of the following information:

- (1) Information related to a still image or a moving image at the time of destroying the recording medium
- (2) Information related to a still image or a moving image of the recording medium that has been destroyed
- (3) Information related to a still image or a moving image obtained by picking up an image of a person who has operated the recording medium destruction apparatus
- (4) Information related to a still image or a moving image obtained by picking up an image of the surroundings of the place where the recording medium destruction apparatus itself is installed
- (5) Information related to a still image or a moving image for specifying the destroyed recording medium
- (6) Information related to a still image or a moving image for specifying the recording medium destruction apparatus itself.

2. The recording medium destruction apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the image information recording means has image pickup means for picking up at least one of the following images:

- (1) A still image or a moving image at the time of destroying the recording medium

(2) A still image or a moving image of the recording medium that has been destroyed

(3) A still image or a moving image obtained by picking up an image of a person who has operated the recording medium destruction apparatus

5 (4) A still image or a moving image obtained by picking up an image of the surroundings of the place where the recording medium destruction apparatus itself is installed

(5) A still image or a moving image for specifying the destroyed recording medium

10 (6) A still image or a moving image for specifying the recording medium destruction apparatus itself.

3. The recording medium destruction apparatus according to claim 1, comprising bibliographic information recording means for recording at least  
15 one of the following bibliographic information:

(1) Information for specifying the place where the recording medium destruction apparatus is installed

(2) Information for specifying the time when the recording medium was destroyed

20 (3) Information for specifying a person who has operated the recording medium destruction apparatus

(4) Information for specifying the destroyed recording medium

(5) Information for specifying the recording medium destruction apparatus itself

25 (6) Information for specifying the reason for destroying the recording medium

(7) Information for specifying the original owner of the destroyed recording medium

(8) Information for specifying a person who has requested to destroy the recording medium.

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4. The recording medium destruction apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the recording medium destruction apparatus is adapted to apply a mechanical force to the recording medium so as to destroy the recording medium.

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5. The recording medium destruction apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the recording medium destruction apparatus is adapted to apply at least one of an electromagnetic wave, a magnetic field, and heat to the recording medium so as to destroy the recording medium.

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6. The recording medium destruction apparatus according to claim 1, comprising code number assignment means for assigning a code number to the recording medium to be destroyed, and recording medium for recording, when the recording medium is destroyed, the code number assigned to the destroyed recording medium and the date on which the recording medium has been destroyed.

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7. The recording medium destruction apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the recording medium destruction apparatus is adapted to cut and destroy the recording medium with a rotary cutting edge, and

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wherein the recording medium destruction apparatus further comprises image information recording medium for recording the recording

medium as the still image or the moving image from the time of insertion of the recording medium to the time of falling of the recording medium into the rotary cutting edge arranged opposite thereto so as to be cut therewith.

5           8. The recording medium destruction apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the recording medium belonging to any one of a plurality of thickness categories set depending on the thickness of the recording medium or the recording media belonging to two or more of the thickness categories can be cut.

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          9. A recording medium destruction apparatus for driving a pin so as to destroy a recording medium so that information recorded on the recording medium is irreproducible, the recording medium destruction apparatus comprising monitoring means for monitoring situations where the recording  
15 medium is destroyed.

          10. The recording medium destruction apparatus according to claim 1, comprising an electric coil for generating a magnetic field having a predetermined intensity, a pin for physically destroying the recording medium,  
20 and a receptacle for accommodating the recording medium,

          the coil being wound around an outer surface of the receptacle so that the magnetic field is induced within the receptacle, the pin being mounted on the outside of the receptacle so as to be movable nearer to and apart from the receptacle and to be adapted to pierce and destroy the recording medium  
25 accommodated within the receptacle through an opening formed toward the receptacle, and

further comprising image pickup means for picking up an image of the process of operation on the recording medium, including at least inherent information for specifying the recording medium.

5           11. A recording medium destruction system comprising the recording medium destruction apparatus according to claim 1, and a control device connected to the recording medium destruction apparatus, for transmitting image data recorded on the image information recording medium toward the control device depending on the operation of the control device to perform at  
10   least either one of displaying and printing.

          12. A recording medium destruction system comprising a plurality of the recording medium destruction apparatuses according to claim 1, and a control device connected to the recording medium destruction apparatuses, for  
15   sequentially transmitting the image data recorded on the image information recording means toward the control device, to allow the image data to be collectively managed therein.

          13. An electronic equipment supervising apparatus adapted to record  
20   information for specifying an electronic equipment and an outline of data possessed by the electronic equipment, and to record discard of the equipment and destruction of the data by image information.

          14. The electronic equipment supervising apparatus according to claim  
25   13, wherein the electronic equipment is connected to the electronic equipment supervising apparatus.

15. The electronic equipment supervising apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the electronic equipment supervising apparatus is adapted to record a copying history and/or an overwriting history of the data possessed by the electronic equipment.

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16. The electronic equipment supervising apparatus according to claim 13, adapted to record destruction of copied data.

17. The electronic equipment supervising apparatus according to claim 13, adapted to record respective videos before and after the destruction of the electronic equipment or the recording medium.

18. The electronic equipment supervising apparatus according to claim 13, comprising a destruction apparatus for the electronic equipment or the recording medium, the destruction apparatus being connected to the electronic equipment supervising apparatus.

19. The electronic equipment supervising apparatus according to claim 13, comprising a destruction apparatus for the electronic equipment or the recording medium, the destruction apparatus being adapted to pick up an image of the electronic equipment or the recording medium at the time of or after the destruction.

20. The electronic equipment supervising apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the electronic equipment supervising apparatus or a destruction apparatus is connected to an information reading device so that information for

specifying the electronic equipment is obtained by information read from the information reading device.

- 5        21. A computer program for recording:  
         information for specifying electronic equipment;  
         outline of data possessed by the electronic equipment;  
         discard of the equipment; and  
         destruction of the data.